

Don Young Arriving July 21

Rep. Donald Young of Fort Yukon will arrive in Fairbanks July 20 for a one month stay in the Fairbanks vicinity, his committee was told at its Monday evening meeting.

Young advised the Don Young Re-election Committee

Monday that he would make trips down the Richardson Highway during his stay in the Fairbanks area. The legislator is completing his first term in the Alaska House of Representatives.

He recently returned to Fort

Yukon from trips to northern Interior villages north and east of Fort Yukon.

Young is a Fort Yukon school teacher and lives in the Yukon River community with his wife Lula Fredson Young and two small daughters.

While in Fairbanks the legislator will meet with many groups and organizations that have requested to talk with him. His co-chairmen in Fairbanks are Mrs. Terry Worrall and Jim Scott.

ANICA Manager . . .

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"As a store advisor I traveled to a number of member stores and much to my surprise, learned that general manager Mr. Ervin was paying the store managers less than state minimum wage in direct violation of law," Leonard Monaghan charged.

"The store managers were getting generally \$1.25 an hour," he continued, "whereas the legal minimum rate is \$2.25 per hour."

Leonard Monaghan said that in his capacity as a store advisor, he raised the salary of the managers to what he thought approximated the legal minimum rate.

"When I got back to Seattle Mr. Ervin called me to account and said I was 'moving too fast and the natives had to walk before they could run,'" Monaghan said.

"In answer to this I told him 'the natives have been walking for 30 years. When do they run? I am merely trying to meet the standard of wages fixed by law.'"

"I was then told 'they have been getting along for 20 years without you and they will get along for another 20 years without you.'"

The ANICA stores were established, Leonard Monaghan said, as a result of a wonderful law called the Indian Reorganization Act enacted by Congress in 1934 and extended to Alaska in 1936.

He said the law was designed to be a training ground for natives to become accustomed to operation of businesses. So far, he said, the ANICA central office has never given this opportunity to natives except in a minor way.

"From the beginning, this central organization has been 'for whites only,' Monaghan cites.

"I say that the general manager, including the present one, is both arrogant and dictatorial, so he feels that he can fire me for raising your pay to meet the legal standards and for approving minor labor improvements in your stores."

Monaghan asks whether the natives were to assume that they do not wish the Seattle office to employ natives but to give these jobs from top to bottom to "whites only."

"In a business that grosses over one million dollars annually and doing business in more than 60 villages, don't you agree that you should do something to better this situation?" asks Monaghan.

He continued:

"Mr. Ervin likes to tell us that he controls the government loans (which now amount to about \$400,000) and he gives you the impression that he can freeze your bank account."

"The Board of Directors is in control of ANICA, and that means you! Anytime the general manager injures a store or injures the entire system by enforcing such threats, he is working directly against your interests."

"I say you have nothing to fear from any effort on his part

to injure your store or injure you."

"Once we get the idea that the dictatorship is one that we have created and therefore can take away, then we acquire a freedom and we can establish ANICA for the benefit of the natives from the top to the bottom."

Monaghan said that after 30 years the native store managers should be getting more than the "hand to mouth" returns. He said it was inconceivable that a firm like the Sears and Roebuck being satisfied with an income of \$76 per month.

He said this was the average for each store, "in spite of the fact that Congress has given us tax immunity from federal and state and has provided money at a very low interest rate."

He said this gave the native stores a leeway of charging competitive prices with other businesses that have corporate tax of 46 per cent and from which ANICA is exempt.

Monaghan pointed out that the village ANICA stores owe the government about \$400,000 with interest charge at the prevailing government rate but which had been increased from one per cent to 5½ per cent, "in spite of the fact that you have your own reserve fund, said to be in excess of the government debt."

"You have a choice," writes Monaghan. "You can continue under the miserable substandard pattern that has prevailed for more than 20 years, with of course no hope of improvement, while managers follow each other in endless succession, living above their income standard merely because they have a white collar job;

"OR: You can gather in convention and reorganize your entire setup from top to bottom, unless you are afraid, a conclusion that I am not willing to accept."

Leonard Monaghan said he has had consultation with some of the best known Indian leaders and the leaders had agreed that the time has come when such a convention of village leaders should reorganize the corporation, even though the ANICA system had just had its annual meeting.

"I say this because the Seattle office has just sent out a letter telling the ANICA president that ANICA is reorganizing," said Monaghan.

"But, when I consider the many years ANICA has existed merely to enrich such men as Winfield Ervin and his predecessors, I can say for a certainty that he will sit on his present throne until death removes him, at which time the 'power behind the throne' will exalt the newly appointed heir."

"A suggestion that occurs to me which I hope you will discuss, follows:

"Don't you think that your business could be improved by removing your central office to Anchorage or Fairbanks?"

"Each store manager and the councilmen could have ready and frequent access to visit your central office, in contrast with the present situation in which your general manager might as well be in Japan."

RDA Office . . .

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"Since the legislature funded the RDA program for a high level of activity, the obvious intent was to get money out to the rural communities involved for the construction of needed community projects," Miller stated.

He said that by having an RDA agency here, rural projects could be expedited and would be more meaningful because the Fairbanks coordinator would contribute knowledgeable data on proposed projects.

"RDA officials should travel to the communities so they can personally inspect the village needs and act more quickly on loan applications," Miller said.

He said next legislature could work on the proposal and appropriate additional money for its operation.

"It could be operated by two people, an area coordinator and a secretary. Cost wouldn't be too great on it," Terry Miller said.

The Rural Development Agency administers a grant program which it gives to villages to construct necessary community facilities. It has a maximum grant of \$10,000 per year per village.

The maximum, however, can be doubled if a village plans a large project by applying for it a year ahead of time. The money can be used to pay for labor and to buy material.

The agency is headed by Mark Jacobs, Jr. with offices in the state capitol.

Terry Miller said that his proposal has merit that even if he is not elected, the legislature should appropriate additional money to operate it.

Rep. Miller is running for one of two open state senate seats. He is from North Pole but he now makes his residence in Fairbanks.

He has just returned from a campaign swing through the villages in the rural areas.

Miss Indian . . .

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grams, and has been interviewed by countless newspapers.

Miss (Indian) America is the honored guest at many activities throughout the year representing All American Indian Days and her people.

Alaskan girl entry should have a sponsor to get to Sheridan, Wyoming but her living expenses and chaperoning will be taken care of by the AAID.

All those who are interested in entering should consult with Miss Ellen Forbes at the Tanana Valley State Fair Grounds at 2 Mile College Road or call her at 452-3750.

Miss Forbes will be glad to talk to anyone interested in entering.

Public opinion is stronger than the legislature, and nearly as strong as the ten commandments.

-CHARLES D. WARNER



MICHAEL HOWARTH



JOHN SANFORD

ENLISTEES—Two Alaskan youths enlisted in the U.S. Navy recently and are now training at the U.S. Naval Training Center in San Diego, California under the Navy's program in which they will receive training in the field of their choice. At the top is Michael Howarth of Point Hope. He is the son of Gilbert Howarth of that village. At the bottom picture is John Sanford of Mentasta Lake. He graduated from Tok High School in 1967 and he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sanford. Michael Howarth graduated from Chemawa High School in 1967.

Nick Begich Would Support Arts, Humanities if Elected

ANCHORAGE — Sen. Nick Begich, Democratic candidate for Congress, has placed himself strongly in favor of legislation designed to support and expand the national foundation of the arts and the humanities.

In February, the U.S. House of Representatives cut a bill authorizing \$135 million over a two-year period, to just over

\$11 million for one year. Sen. Begich noted that Howard Pollock voted for the drastic reduction.

Calling attention to his Alaska state senate record, Begich noted that he has repeatedly initiated and supported humanities bills and would give his full backing to humanities legislation in the U.S. Congress.

Togiak Reindeer Herd Thrives . . .

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Maybe in a few years we'll have three or four thousand reindeer."

Andrew Franklin said that the Association of Village Electric Corporation was going to install electric power in the village and that the village of Togiak was planning to acquire a freezing facility.

After the freezer unit has been installed, Franklin said the village was planning to butcher some reindeer and the meat would be sold to the villagers by the council.

"Stanley Active is the village president. He's a good president. He really is," said Franklin.

He said Stanley Active was in the process of planning the consumption of reindeer in the future and that in time each family would be able to consume about four reindeer a year.

"Togiak people willing to buy the meat. He figures every family can eat four reindeer in Togiak in a year," said Franklin.

He said Jack Gosuk was the head reindeer herder on Hagemester Island 25 miles from Togiak.

Gosuk and his family are living on the island along with

two other herders Sam Foster and Chris Bavilla.

"That Gosuk he sure, he does really like his job. I really appreciate that, too. I think we choose the right person," Franklin said.

He said the herd was taken care of all year round.

Andrew Franklin is taking a refresher course at the University of Alaska as a Head Start teacher-director for the village of Togiak along with 85 others from villages all over the state.

"Last year we had 21 in Head Start in Togiak," Franklin said. "Boy, they really go for that. Parents see the Head Start is good for them and good for their children."

"I was surprised, you know, 14 from last year are in first grade. You know what the teacher told me, they were ahead of their class. It made me feel real good."

"Anuska Togiak, she's my cousin, help teach. She said she was real proud of what we did."

Franklin said that the teacher-directors were taking a six-weeks course while the aides were taking a three-weeks course.